## STATE SENATOR - GILDA Z. JACOBS - 14TH DISTRICT

## **Jacobs Press Release**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE CONTACT: Sen. Gilda Jacobs (D-Huntington Woods) May 11, 2006 517/373-7888

## SENATOR JACOBS INTRODUCES INCENTIVES FOR MICHIGAN RESIDENTS TO VACATION IN STATE

LANSING – Sen. Gilda Z. Jacobs (D-Huntington Woods) has introduced legislation that will reward Michigan residents who vacation in our state. The program, "Our State Michigan Vacation Program" or "Our State MVP" will provide a \$75 tourism voucher to every individual who filed a Michigan Income Tax return during the previous tax year.

The vouchers can be redeemed for full face value at a "qualified accommodation" such as a hotel, motel, inn or resort in Michigan. Owners of the qualified accommodation would then be able to redeem the voucher for full face value against their Michigan income tax liabilities.

"The tourism industry is poised to become our next engine of economic growth," Sen. Jacobs said. "This legislation will foster that effort and spur that growth. It will boost the Michigan economy, it will create jobs, and it will encourage Michigan families to recreate and enjoy the wonders of our state. It benefits everyone."

The program will rest within the Michigan Strategic Fund, which will coordinate the program with the Department of Treasury. In addition the MSF which would design the vouchers; publicize Our State MVP; and promulgate requirements necessary to implement the program and maintain its integrity.

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State Senator Gilda Jacobs represents the 14<sup>th</sup> Senate District, which includes Farmington, Farmington Hills, Ferndale, Hazel Park, Huntington Woods, Lathrup Village, Oak Park, Pleasant Ridge, Royal Oak Township, and Southfield. She is the Minority Vice Chair of the Families & Human Services Committee and the Economic Development, Small Business & Regulatory Reform Committee. She also serves on the Government Operations and Health Policy Committees